

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL HOBIE CAT ASSOCIATION

2022/23 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 30 December 2022, 2 Foley St, Vincentia

Campbell Weddell welcomed state representatives and opened the meeting at 4.20pm.

1) Present: Campbell Weddell, Naomi Chiu, Patrick Butler, Gavin Luxton, Julie Keenan, Cam Owen, Susan Ghent, Martin Vantor

2) Apologies : Rob Branch, James Rhodes

3) Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting Accepted: Cam Owen, Seconded: Julie Keenan

4) President's Report: Campbell Weddell, the president of the ANHCA presented his report, see [appendix A](#).

5) Treasurer's Report: James Rhodes, ANHCA treasurer compiled the Treasurer's Report for the meeting. See [appendix B](#) for the report.

6) Measurer's Report: No official measurer has been in office for the past year, therefore an official measurer to be elected. Gavin Luxton was nominated for the role and without another nomination, he is happy to take on the role.

7) Manufacturer's Report: Chris Purnell from Hobie Asia Pacific announced to the sailors at Series One briefing that Hobie had engaged a new manufacturer for their sailboats. Included here, in [appendix C](#), is a letter from the new manufacturer updating the Hobie community as to their progress.

8) State Association Reports:

a) Queensland – Julie Keenan presented the Queensland State Association Report on behalf of Rob Branch, the Qld President. See [appendix D](#) for the report.

b) New South Wales – Patrick Butler, president of the New South Wales Hobie Cat Association presented the report, see [appendix E](#).

c) Victoria - Campbell Weddell, president of the Hobie Cat Association of Victoria presented the report, see [appendix F](#).

d) South Australia – no report was presented for South Australia

e) Western Australia - Campbell Owen, president of the Hobie Class Association of Western Australia presented the report, [see appendix G](#).

9) Election of Office Bearers for 2022/23

President: Nomination – Campbell Weddell

Accepted: Julie Keenan Seconded: Cam Owen

Secretary: Nomination – Naomi Chiu

Accepted: Cam Weddell Seconded: Julie Keenan

Treasurer: Nomination – Juliet Bates

Accepted: Naomi Chiu Seconded: Patrick Butler

10) 2023/24 National Championships refer to [appendix D](#), Queensland Hobie Cat Association state report.

11) ANHCA Media and Communications report – outlined by Patrick Butler, see [appendix H](#) for notes.

12) General Business

1. Australian Sailing affiliation vote to join for \$220 - Naomi to follow up

2. David Brookes appointment and Kevlar's IHCA South Pacific position? - Cam to follow up

3. 2024/25 Victorian Nationals: Committee are discussing options, EOI has been sent to McCrae Yacht Club

4. Missing plaque for Bundy and Kevlar 1992/93?

Find the Trophy register for the ANHCA and Results history

5. Suzzi – ANHCA merchandise with state team logo

Merch partners, Vaikobi, Suzzi will follow up

Can we use the Hobie logo on merch etc... Cam to ask Kevlar

6. Measurement discussion points: IHCA compliant boat and exemptions, work on text for NOR for state events. Gavin to follow up.

Meeting close: 6.11pm

Executive Committee

President: Campbell Weddell

Signature:

Date:

Secretary: Naomi Chiu

Signature:

Date:

Treasurer: Juliet Bates

Signature:

Date:

Appendix A

President's report

Phil Epps from WA has stepped down as President and Pete Skewes also stepped down from the secretary role. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank them both for all the work they've done over many years on the ANHCA committee.

I was elected ANHCA president + Naomi Chiu as Secretary. James Rhodes continued in his position as treasurer. James has however, decided to vacate his position as treasurer. We thank him for his years of service and wish him luck with his new role as a father!

Further, we welcomed Patrick Butler (also NSW State President) to the role of online + media content.

Events:

The Worlds were run in Spain with a fantastic contingent of Aussies attending. The Aussie results were incredible with special mention to the stars of the regatta Cam + Suz!

With the last few years putting Nationals on Hold, we did manage to sneak in the first Hobie Dragoon Nationals last summer in Vincentia. Fantastic to see the young brigade get out on these boats and get a taste for what's to come!

Of course, there's been a year of state titles around the nation that have been very well attended. Generally, we've seen numbers on the increase and lots of interstate invaders travelling. Again, special mention to the WA sailors who came to a lot of the East Coast states!

Plenty of other regattas on too which included Bad News, Batavia, WA Cat Classic, Vic Cat Champs and Sail Brisbane.

Looking forward to the next year of Hobie sailing and the nationals in Brisbane next summer.

Appendix B

Treasurer's Report

Please see attached the financial report for the ANHCA for FY22 (1st dec 2021 to 30th Nov 2022). These reports are yet to be audited as per our standard practice.

As previously discussed, I will be standing down as treasurer to focus on another exciting stage of life :)

There are a few outstanding tasks for the FY22 treasury role that I will need to hand over to the incoming treasurer. Very happy to work with that person on these tasks and the general treasury tasks.

Bit of commentary to go with the report.

Balance Sheet

- *The bank balance \$16,197*
- *Total invoices for states \$5,077*
- *Liabilities \$130 for the south aus refund not yet issued + \$58 fair trading fee*
- *Current earnings \$772 loss this FY*

Income Statement

- *state membership \$3,374 (30th Nov 2022)*
- *state contribution to insurance \$1,702*
- *Jan 2022 IHCA fee \$2,838*
- *once off sponsorship of worlds shirts \$1250*
- *net loss of \$772*

Treasury discussion points

- IHCA fees being charged at
 - \$25US adult
 - \$15US youth
 - \$7US junior

Currently ANHCA only charged \$15US for both adult and youth

Just out of interest, a couple of comparisons over the past 7 years

FY15 financials

Balance Sheet \$13,498.95 (CBA balance)

FY15 Profit \$729.05

FY22 financials

Balance Sheet \$21,085.96

CBA balance \$16,197.47

FY22 Loss \$772.34

Members in 2014

148 from AGM report

Members in 2022
145 from state numbers and common database

Thanks
James

Appendix C

Manufacturer's Report

Feb 2023 Update from Starting Line Sailing, the new Hobie Cat sailboat manufacturer

Dear Hobie Sailors-

Since you last heard from Starting Line Sailing, the new Hobie Cat sailboat manufacturer. We have made significant progress made across the entire Hobie Sailboats supply chain.

A small overview of where we are heading and what we have achieved since we have become the Hobie Cat sailboat manufacturer.

Last week, we started shipping Hobie Sailboats Parts orders to our worldwide Hobie dealership network.

– All the Hobie tools, molds, assets, jigs, etc, have been moved to our factory in Rhode Island. Rhode Island is a state in the New England region of the Northeastern United States

– The supply of sails is coming back to full production, we've taken delivery of large quantities of sails (all sold out instantly), and many more are in production now.

– Parts and accessory production are underway in Rhode Island. Matt Miller who worked at Hobie Cat Company for many years and was a long-time Hobie sailor with others from the Hobie team are helping us get into volume production.

– Waves and Getaways should be in volume production when you read this. We'll be able to produce around 100 a month for the rest of 2023.

– Hobie 16 production will start in Rhode Island next month.

– We're producing 50 trampolines a week

—

Overall:

We are working hard to produce everything – while making sure quality remains high. We have dedicated our efforts to setting up all Hobie tooling in our factory and ensuring that we are producing a quality product before rushing to the market.

We're producing in this priority order: Wave, Getaway and Hobie 16s. We expect the first complete boat deliveries by March.

In Europe, we expect deliveries of T1s and Catsys also in March, and fiberglass boat production (Dagoon, 14, 15, 16, and Max) is starting now with deliveries expected in late spring.

Early discussions are underway for Hobie Worlds, and how we can support events. We have agreed to charter boats for the Hobie 14 and Hobie Dragoon Worlds also Hobie 16s for the Hobie Europeans. We will also have the Hobie 16 Gold fleet sails for Cesenatico, Italy 11-21 July 2023. We have more information in another press release.

—

Our mission is to get people on the water, and we are working as hard as we can to set up the new factory and start getting boats and parts out to dealers.

We have 50+ people involved in Hobie Sailboat work. We are working nights and weekends to get everything back for you to keep racing your Hobie.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work through issues.

We are confident that you will be impressed with the quality and craftsmanship of our products once they reach your hands.

Our next update should hopefully have pictures of completed boats going OUT THE DOOR 😊

— The team at Starting Line Sailing

Appendix D

Queensland Hobie Cat Association

Committee Members:

President	Rob Branch
Treasurer	Julie Keenan
Secretary	Bill Kirkley
Social Media Co-ordinator	Dave Chester
Regatta Support Leads	Peter Bates and Andrew Warneke

Membership:

As at 31 December, 2022, QHCA has 34 financial members, with 8 of these being youth sailors. This is an increase on previous recent years, with some new members joining specifically for the 2022 State Titles which were held at RQ. Many of the new members are experienced sailors in catamaran and also dinghy fleets, trying Hobie racing for the first time.

Queensland State Titles 2022:

After discussion and agreement amongst members, the 2022 Queensland State Titles were moved from the traditional Easter weekend to the May Day long weekend. This was well received generally and as such, this date change will continue in 2023. Sunstate Hobie and Catcovers provided generous sponsorship to the event.

Two fleets were run. The Hobie 16 fleet with 22 boats was won by Peter and Juliet Bates, and the Hobie 14 fleet with 11 boats by Pat Butler.

2023-24 Australian National Hobie Titles

With Queensland hosting the 2023-24 Australian National Hobie Titles, Hobie sailors should pencil in two lead-up regattas at RQYS Manly (the Nationals venue) – the first being the Queensland State Titles on 29 April – 1 May 2023 and later in the year, Sail Brisbane on 9 – 10 December 2023.

The format of the 2023-24 Nationals will mirror that of the 2022-23 Nationals with registration on 27 December 2023, Series One from 28 -31 December 2023 and Series Two from 2 – 5 January 2024. Full event details will be published during the Queensland State Titles.

As has been the case previously, camping on the RQ grounds will be available. We are currently exploring the prospect of interstate Hobie sailors leaving their boats at RQ between Sail Brisbane and the Nationals free of charge and to date these conversations have been promising.

Appendix E

New South Wales Hobie Class Association

Committee

- Paddy Butler (president), Doogie (vice-president), Clare Eastment (secretary), Dave Fisher (treasurer), Bryn Robinson-Mills, Craig Hatton, Jake de Rooy, Peter Manley, Aaron Robinson, Peter Walker, Mick Butler

State Championships

- Vincentia Sailing Club (needs no introduction)
 - 60 boat fleet, consisting of 35 Hobie 14s.
 - Introduced the new form of trophy giving
- Twofold Bay Yacht Club
 - Great club to work with, and an excellent sailing destination
 - Tagged on the back of their annual regatta, showcasing the Hobie Class greatly amongst other fleets
 - Continued with new forms of trophy giving. e.g. masters etc. trophy given to the first boat NOT on the podium. Allows for more sailors, generally not the hotshots, to get trophies as well
- Palm Beach Sailing Club
 - Tagged on to the Buillets Regatta. Great show of support for the club, as well as showcasing the class greatly amongst others such as F18s etc. we were also the largest class.

Prize giving & scoring

- As we are doing it for the Nationals. All the old farts can only enter in one fleet. E.g. MB is only in the Grand Masters. This allows for greater competition amongst the mid-fleet sailors.
 - E.g. Pete & Jules took home the opens, masters & grand masters at RQYS back in May.
- Masters GM, GGM trophy given to the best team not in the top-3.

Upcoming States

- Wangi Wangi Amateur Sailing Club: 4-5 February 2023
- 14, Women & Youth, 18s?
- Ideally, up to 30 Hobie 14s. Charters can be made available.

Appendix F

Hobie Cat Association of Victoria

Committee:

Pres - Cam

VP - Rowdy

Sec - Fletch

Treas - Martin

General: Georgia, Nigel, Mads, Tim, Abi, Zak, Naomi + Vinny

Class:

We had the state titles in Portarlington in 2022 with great support from NSW with Cam + Suz also making the trip over for some very light winds. Generally, an increase in numbers at our states combined with interstate attendance helping the numbers even more.

A few non Hobie regattas which were well attended by the Vic sailors which also formed part of a traveller series. We are seeing more sailors willing to travel to get better numbers for club racing which is nice to see. A good number of our members are attending the nationals and travelling to NSW for their state titles.

We have good numbers in the 16's + 14's with the emergence of the Dragoons down at Somers. There are a couple 18's + a few 17's that almost exclusively sail on the Surfcoast however, we have seen them doing a bit more travel lately.

Membership + Finances:

Currently we have 41 members in total including 5 youth members. Currently the balance is sitting at \$21,350 with our state titles generally breaking even. We keep a healthy balance to help with nationals.

Appendix G

Hobie Class Association of Western Australia

Committee:

HCAWA Committee for 2022/23 - Cameron Owen (President), Claire Bisgood (Treasurer), Vacant (Secretary), Andy and Vicky Preyer, Natalie Whitfield, Susan Ghent, Robin Dinsdale.

Class:

The Hobie Community is strong in Western Australia with fleets in Perth (Nedlands Yacht Club) and Geraldton (Geraldton Yacht Club) as well as a few Hobie 16's involved at other Clubs in regional locations.

There is an emerging H14 fleet and one active Wildcat

Youth and Training:

At NYC there are 3 Hobie 16's owned by the Club and being used for training courses. These are available to use as an introduction to racing for the sailors that have completed the catamaran training course. Mainsails have been cut down to reef size for use by lighter crews when being introduced to the class. This works well to tame the boat while in the introduction phase.

At this stage the training is being supported by qualified instructors. The HCAWA see a need for qualified instructors and coaches who have catamaran experience. Enticing youth in to the Hobie 16 class is a work in progress with some crews coming into Hobie 16 from junior classes.

The HCAWA is aiming to develop the Hobie 14 class with the goal of increasing youth participation.

Events and promotion:

Nine members of the WA Fleet attended the recent HC16 Worlds in Spain and very were successful showing the depth and competitiveness of the local fleet.

As well as regular club racing at NYC and GYC, the Hobie 16 class competes in a multi- class winter series at Fremantle Sailing Club through winter. The class believes this is important to promote the Hobie 16 to sailors in other classes. A few Hobie 16 teams travelled to Busselton in November to compete in the Cape Marathon Regatta (Geographe Bay Yacht Club) This too was good promotion of the Hobie 16 fleet with interest in the class growing locally.

The Traveller Series was re-established for 2022-23 and includes annual events such as the Cat Classic, WA States, the GBYC Australia Day Regatta and the Batavia Regatta in Geraldton. These regattas are generally well supported by the fleet, and the intention is to increase the number of events in the series next year. Encouraging teams to travel is increasing the awareness of the Hobie 16 around the state and will hopefully assist in attracting new sailors to the class.

In the lead up to the nationals NYC host a series of three Friday evening sprint series sessions. While the fleet is small for this event it is well attended as a social occasion too which is very healthy for the class.

HCAWA hosts two main events each year, the state championships and Cat Classic Regatta. The WA State Championship was held at Geraldton Yacht Club and contested by 22 boats. The fleet was smaller than usual due to travel requirements and sailing in an ocean location which can be more challenging for the river based teams. At the state AGM the group agreed to hold the 2023 event at The Cruising Yacht Club, Rockingham, hoping that the metropolitan venue would entice a larger fleet of around 30 boats in Perth to compete and hopefully get some interstate attendance.

The annual Cat Classic Regatta is open to all beach catamaran classes meeting the size restrictions and was contested by 18 boats in September 2022. Numbers were well down on previous years with many sailors away at the Hobie 16 World Championships.

The HCAWA is grateful of local volunteers who promote the class through sharing photos and videos. As well as members of clubs that are hosting events and promoting the sport, the Committee acknowledge the contributions of two individuals who provide a lot of positive promotion using the fleet in Perth. Lindsay Preece shares images and video on his Facebook group (Ironbark Photos), these are popular within the local sailing community as well as being shared around the world. John Chapman from NYC shares images and video of his drone footage on Instagram (SailsOnSwan). Their work is of great benefit to the Hobie Class in WA.

Cam Owen and Susan Ghent.

Appendix H

ANHCA Media and Communications Report

YouTube views going well

Strategy: FB Groups misinformation/Spam

ANHCA FB: PB to post all business on the webpage (for each state)

ANHCA webpage: all state associations have a web page linked to the webpage

ANHCA Facebook page only admins can post to, posts are public

State associations need a public viewing FB page

Suggested action item: Victoria to add a public viewing FB page

Action item: PB to come up with a media/social media structure for his media strategy